

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of formatting a computer-readable
5 document comprising a plurality of objects having
directly-assigned attributes, the method comprising:
detecting objects, in said computer-readable
document, having directly-assigned attributes;
creating a conversion style element for every
10 detected combination of directly-assigned
attributes in the computer-readable document; and
replacing directly-assigned attributes of
each detected object by a reference to one
conversion style element wherein said one
15 conversion style element corresponds to said
directly-assigned attributes.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein said creating a
conversion style element further comprises creating a
20 conversion style element for each unique detected
combination of directly-assigned attributes.
3. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
opening said computer-readable document in a
25 random access memory of a computer system prior to
said detecting operation.
4. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
receiving a request from a user to perform
30 said detecting, creating and replacing operations.
5. The method of Claim 1 wherein the computer-
readable document comprises a text document.
- 35 6. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
naming each conversion style element.

7. A method of formatting a computer-readable document comprising a plurality of objects having directly-assigned attributes, the method comprising:

5 receiving a request from a user to convert
directly-assigned attributes to at least one
conversion style element;
 detecting objects, in said computer-readable
document, having directly-assigned attributes;
 creating a conversion style element for every
10 unique detected combination of directly-assigned
attributes in the computer-readable document; and
 replacing directly-assigned attributes of
each detected object by a reference to one
conversion style element wherein said one
15 conversion style element corresponds to said
directly-assigned attributes.

8. A computer system comprising:

 a processor; and
20 a memory storing a method for formatting a
computer-readable document comprising a plurality of
objects having directly-assigned attributes, wherein
upon execution of said method on said processor said
method comprises:
25 detecting objects, in said computer-readable
document, having directly-assigned attributes;
 creating a conversion style element for every
detected combination of directly-assigned
attributes in the computer-readable document; and
30 replacing directly-assigned attributes of
each detected object by a reference to one
conversion style element wherein said one
conversion style element corresponds to said
directly-assigned attributes.

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9. The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said
creating a conversion style element further comprises

creating a conversion style element for each unique detected combination of directly-assigned attributes.

10. The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said
5 method further comprises:

opening said computer-readable document in a random access memory of said memory prior to said detecting operation.

11. The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said
10 method further comprises:

receiving a request from a user to perform said detecting, creating and replacing operations.

12. The computer system of Claim 8 wherein the
15 computer-readable document comprises a text document.

13. The computer system of Claim 8 wherein said
20 method further comprises naming each conversion style element.

14. A computer program product having stored thereon a method of formatting a computer-readable document comprising a plurality of objects having
25 directly-assigned attributes, the method comprising:
detecting objects, in said computer-readable document, having directly-assigned attributes;
creating a conversion style element for every detected combination of directly-assigned
30 attributes in the computer-readable document; and
replacing directly-assigned attributes of each detected object by a reference to one conversion style element wherein said one conversion style element corresponds to said
35 directly-assigned attributes.

15. The computer program product of Claim 14
wherein said creating a conversion style element
further comprises creating a conversion style element
for each unique detected combination of directly-
5 assigned attributes.

16. The computer program product of Claim 14
wherein said method further comprises:
receiving a request from a user to perform
10 said detecting, creating and replacing operations.

17. The computer program product of Claim 14
wherein said method further comprises:
naming each conversion style element.
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